

# WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS FOR WISCONSIN BAY AREA COUNTIES

May 2002



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Workforce Development

## Bay Area Counties Unadjusted Unemployment Rates Decline During April

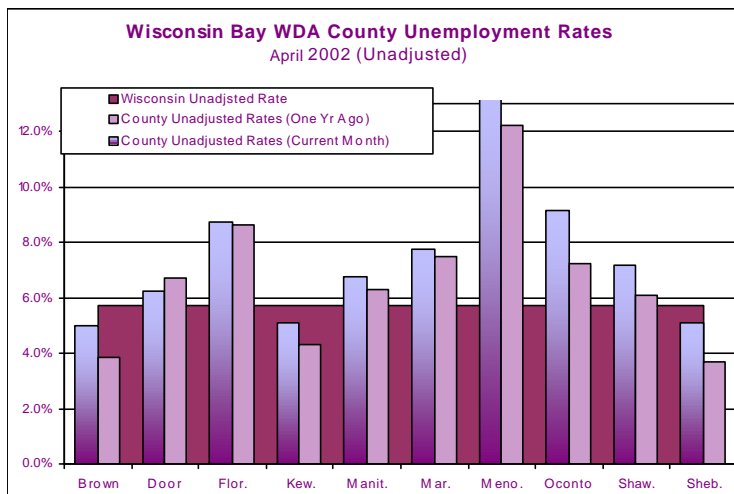
During April, there was some positive employment news in the Wisconsin Bay Area. The unemployment rate declined in all ten of the Bay Area Counties. While this is not unusual during the spring in the region, it is significant as it reverses trends of rising unemployment in the region. The rate for the region was 5.9 percent, down 0.9 of a percentage point from March. The declines ranged from a drop of 0.6 of a percentage point in Brown and Shawano at 5.0 percent and 7.2 percent respectively to a drop of 3.0 of a percentage point in Door County to 6.2 percent.

Employment increased 3,700 in the region, with only one county not showing an increase in employment. This was Menominee County with no change at 2,100 employed. The drop in the unemployment rate was also helped by minimal growth in the labor force during April.

The labor force in the region increased 600 from March, substantially lower than the number that found work during the same time period. Overall the number of unemployed was down 3,000 from March. While this is mainly good news for the area, it should be noted that this also a by product of normal seasonal patterns in the area. Labor force growth should accelerate during May and June as workers enter the summer labor market. Employment growth should pick up at the same time. Although it is too early to tell if the number of jobs available will keep pace with 2001 levels.

During April, employment levels when compared to one year ago was mixed. The region as a whole showed improvement with an increase of 6,300 employed over last April. However, most of this comes from the Green Bay MSA,

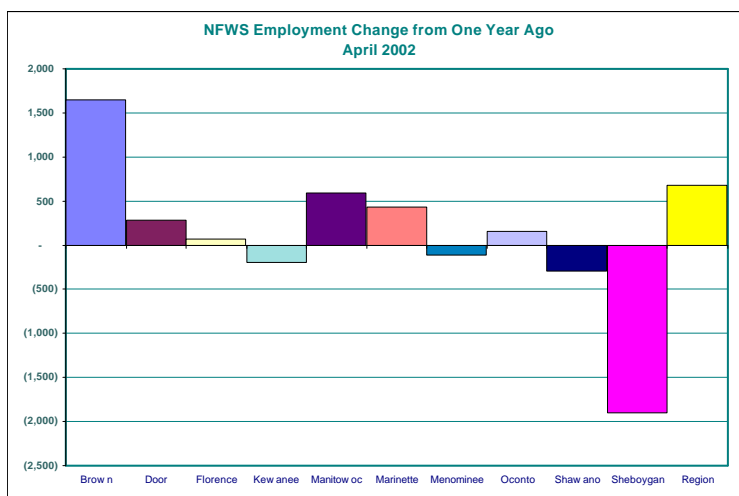
where employment was up 4,200 from last year. Only six of the area's ten county had increases in the number of workers employed from last year. The number of workers in the labor force was up in eight of the ten counties.



During April, the number of new jobs increased by 3,900. Only 200 of these jobs were in the manufacturing sector. Construction and retail trade had the largest increases in employment over the month, which is typical in our seasonal economy in northeast Wisconsin. Construction was up 1,300 from March, while retail trade increased 1,000

Although the number of workers employed increased substantially from last year, the number of additional jobs in the region did not. Nonfarm wage and salary (NFWS) employment only increased by 700 from last April. Again this was lead by the Green Bay MSA which had an increase of 1,600 jobs. Much of this increase was offset by job losses in other counties in the region, especially in the Sheboygan MSA which was down 1,900 from last year. Most of this in the manufacturing sector.

Manufacturing was down 3,400 in the region, although the number of jobs in this sector did show some improvement



between March and April with an increase of 200. This compares with the State of Wisconsin which had a decrease of 25,900 in the manufacturing sector from last year. Like the Bay Area, it too showed some improvement in April with a gain of 1,300. While the region showed job improvement of 700 from last year, the number of NFWS employment for the state was down 4,500 from last April.

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## Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

The seasonally adjusted rate remained unchanged at 4.8 percent from March in the Green Bay MSA. Compared to one year ago, the rate was up 1.1 of a percentage point from 3.7 percent.

The rate in the Sheboygan MSA declined 0.1 of a percentage point to 5.2 percent. The nation's unemployment rate rose 0.3 of

a percentage point to 6.0 percent. The rate for the State of Wisconsin declined 0.3 of a percentage point to 5.4 percent.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.

Wisconsin Bay Workforce Development Area												
April 2002	Brown	Door	Florn.	Kewan.	Mantwc.	Marntt.	Menom	Oconto	Shawn.	Sheboy.	Region	Wisconsin
<b>Civilian Labor Force*</b>	143,200	15,400	1,800	10,800	46,700	22,500	2,400	17,600	20,400	63,000	343,800	3,047,100
Employed	136,100	14,400	1,700	10,200	43,500	20,700	2,100	16,000	19,000	59,700	323,400	2,873,600
Unemployed	7,200	1,000	200	500	3,200	1,700	300	1,600	1,500	3,200	20,400	173,500
Unemployment rate(%)	5.0%	6.2%	8.8%	5.1%	6.8%	7.7%	14.1%	9.2%	7.2%	5.1%	5.9%	5.7%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	4.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.2%	6.0%
<b>Total, all industries**</b>	147,700	12,800	1,200	6,800	38,500	20,300	2,000	10,300	12,400	61,000	312,900	2,811,600
Construction & Mining	9,000	900	0	500	1,500	500	0	500	500	2,300	15,800	119,700
Manufacturing	27,600	2,500	300	2,000	13,600	6,500	0	3,200	2,400	24,500	82,700	563,500
Transportation & Public Util.	10,900	200	0	500	2,200	1,000	0	400	500	1,700	17,400	131,300
Wholesale Trade	7,800	200	0	200	1,000	600	0	100	400	1,900	12,300	136,800
Retail Trade	26,200	2,800	300	1,100	6,000	3,500	100	1,800	2,500	8,900	53,200	497,400
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	10,600	800	0	300	1,000	600	0	200	400	2,000	15,800	151,800
Services	37,500	3,500	200	1,200	8,500	5,300	0	1,900	2,800	12,800	73,500	781,900
Government	18,200	1,800	300	1,100	4,600	2,400	1,900	2,100	2,900	6,800	42,200	429,200
<b>Change from previous month</b>												
<b>Civilian Labor Force*</b>	300	200	0	0	0	-100	100	100	300	-300	600	-4,200
Employed	1,100	700	100	200	600	300	0	200	400	200	3,700	21,700
Unemployed	-800	-400	0	-100	-500	-400	100	-200	-100	-500	-3,000	-25,900
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.6%	-3.0%	-2.4%	-1.3%	-1.1%	-1.8%	1.8%	-1.0%	-0.6%	-0.8%	-0.9%	-0.8%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	0.0%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.1%	0.3%
<b>Total, all industries**</b>	1,400	600	100	100	600	400	0	200	300	300	3,900	35,900
Construction & Mining	600	100	0	0	200	100	0	100	0	100	1,300	10,800
Manufacturing	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	200	1,300
Transportation & Public Util.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	1,200
Wholesale Trade	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	1,000
Retail Trade	300	300	0	0	100	100	0	0	100	0	1,000	7,300
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100	500
Services	200	200	0	0	200	200	0	0	100	0	900	11,400
Government	0	100	0	0	100	0	0	0	100	0	300	2,500
<b>Change from year ago</b>												
<b>Civilian Labor Force*</b>	6,100	500	100	-100	1,700	900	0	800	0	400	10,300	78,400
Employed	4,200	500	100	-200	1,300	800	-100	400	-200	0	6,300	47,000
Unemployed	1,900	0	0	100	300	100	0	400	200	-200	4,000	31,300
Unemployment rate(%)	1.1%	-0.5%	0.1%	0.8%	0.5%	0.2%	1.8%	1.9%	1.1%	1.4%	1.0%	0.9%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	1.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1.5%	1.5%
<b>Total, all industries**</b>	1,600	300	100	-200	600	400	-100	200	-300	-1,900	700	-4,500
Construction & Mining	1,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-400	1,300	100
Manufacturing	-1,400	0	0	-100	100	0	0	-200	0	-1,800	-3,400	-25,900
Transportation & Public Util.	100	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	300	-3,600
Wholesale Trade	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	200
Retail Trade	800	100	0	0	100	100	0	100	0	0	1,200	3,800
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate	-300	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	-100	3,300
Services	0	100	0	0	100	300	0	0	-100	200	600	13,400
Government	700	100	0	-100	100	0	-100	200	-100	0	700	4,200

\* Includes participants residing in area. \*\* Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are NOT seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. NFWS data is benchmarked to 3/2001

Going to be needing Summer Workers? Contact your local Job Center and list your openings on JobNet and the Internet. This free service has a special Seasonal/Summer category to help you find the right person. Call our local office or enter your job listing on the internet at: <https://dws.dwd.state.wi.us/dwewjos/employer>.

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: [WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI](http://WWW.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI)

Direct questions and comments to: **Richard Seidemann, Regional Labor Market Analyst**, Sheboygan County Job Center, 3620 Wilgus Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081 920-208-5809 920-459-3845(FAX) E-mail: [seider@dwd.state.wi.us](mailto:seider@dwd.state.wi.us)